

Message Text

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S E C R E T NICOISA 2007

GENEVA FOR AMB. BUFFUM

E.. O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT CY

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT DENKTASH'S COMMENTS ON CURRENT
SITUATION IN CYPRUS

SUMMARY: RAUF DENKTASH SAYS FACT OF TURKISH MILITARY OCCUPATION AND TURKISH POWER IS CENTRAL TO WHAT HAPPENS NOW ON CYPRUS. TURK FORCES WILL REMAIN UNTIL TURK CYPRIOT LIVES AND PROPERTIES NO LONGER IN SHADOW OF GREEK CYPRIOT THREAT. GIVEN UPROOTING OF 20,000 TURK CYPRIOTS AND UNCERTAIN STABILITY CLERIDES, IT IS URGENT THAT FIRST PHASE OF GENEVA CONFERENCE PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO PHASE TWO. CYPRUS MUST BE REPRESENTED NOT BY GOVERNMENT BUT BY CLERIDES AND DENKTASH AS REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO COMMUNITIES. MAKARIOS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE REP. TURKISH CYPRIOT SECURITY REQUIRES SIZABLE ENCLAVE UNDER TURK CYPRIOT CONTROL INTO WHICH ALL ELEMENTS OF COMMUNITY CAN GATHER IF THEY WISH; 1960 ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDE FOR BASIC STRUCTURE BUT LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

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MENTS PROVIDE FOR BASIC STRUCTURE BUT LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

MUST BE ON CANTONAL BASIS. END SUMMARY

1. AMB. CALLED ON RAUF DANKTASH MORNING OF JULY 30 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS ON ISLAND AND IN GENEVA, TO THANK HIM FOR HIS ASSISTANCE IN GETTING TURK SECURITY PROTECTION FOR INSTALLATIONS AT YEROLAKKOS AND KARAVAS, AND TO ENLIST HIS ASSISTANCE IN RELEASE OF U.S. CITIZENS STILL HELD AT DOME HOTEL IN KYRENIA.

2. DENKTASH RECOUNTED AT LENGTH SUFFERING OF THE TURK CYPRIOT POPULATION AT HANDS OF THE GREEKS, PARTICULARLY DURING 1963 AND 1967 CRISES. TURK CYPRIOT LIVES AND PROPERTIES UNTIL JULY 20 DEPENDED COMPLETELY ON THE SUFFERENCE OF THE GREEKS. SOME 24,000 HAD BEEN UPROOTED DURING 1963-64 TROUBLES AND SOME 20,000 TODAY HAD BEEN GATHERED UP AND CONCENTRATED BY GREEK CYPRIOTS. THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHTS AS GUARANTORS BY TURKISH LANDING OF MILITARY FORCES HAS ALTERED THE SITUATION COMPLETELY. NOW THERE WOULD BE NO WITHDRAWAL OF TURKISH FORCES UNTIL TURK CYPRIOTS HAD SECURITY.

3. TURK CYPRIOT SECURITY REQUIRED A GEOGRAPHIC AREA LARGE ENOUGH TO HOLD ALL TURK CYPRIOTS COMPLETELY SUBJECT TO TURK CYPRIOT AUTHORITY. DENKTASH THOUGHT A CANTONAL ARRANGEMENT MIGHT EMERGE FROM PRESENT SITUATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVT BASED ON AN AMENDED VERSION OF 1960 CONSTITUTION. HE FORESAW A CONTINUATION OF THE ARRANGEMENT FOR A GREEK CYPRIOT PRESIDENT AND A TURK CYPRIOT VICE PRESIDENT BUT WITH ALMOST COMPLETE AUTONOMY FOR TURKISH CANTON. IN ANSWER TO MY QUESTION, HE SAID NOT ALL TURKS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO GATHER TOGETHER BUT THOSE OUTSIDE WOULD BE GUARANTEED FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT ISLAND. GREEK CYPRIOTS IN TURKISH AREAS WOULD HAVE SIMILAR RIGHTS.

4. DENKTASH WAS CRITICAL OF UNFICYP. HE SAID OVER THE YEARS HIS SIDE HAD COMPLAINED THAT GREEKS WERE BUILDING STRONG POINTS FROM WHICH TO DOMINATE TURKISH SECTORS. THE UN AD DENIED THIS IN THEIR REPORTS BUT RECENT FIGHTING HAD DEMONSTRATED THEY HAD BEEN WRONG. UN MOST NOW REALIZE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A MILITARY OPERATION FOLLOWED BY A MILITARY OCCUPATION AND THAT UN ROLE IN THE ZONE MUST BE ALTERED. I NOTED THAT SINCE THERE

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WERE OVER 20,000 TURK CYPRIOTS DEPENDING ON UN FOR SECURITY AND RELIEF, IT SEEMED REASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT 3,000 OR SO GREEK CYPRIOTS IN TURKISH HANDS SHOULD ALSO BE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UN. DENKTASH SAID THERE WAS NO PROBLEM IN HUMANITARIAN RELIEF; OTHER ACTIVITIES HOWEVER HAD BEEN OVERTAKEN BY FACT OF MILITARY OCCUPATION.

5. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, DENKTASH HOPED AGREEMENT COULD BE

REACHED TODAY AT GENEVA AND THAT THERE WOULD BE A PHASE TWO MEETING FOR RESTRUCTURING OF THE CYPRIOT STATE SCHEDULED IMMEDIATELY. NEITHER THE SITUATION OF THE TURK CYPRIOTS IN GREEK HANDS NOR THE POSITION OF GLAFKOS CLERIDES COULD ENDURE A DELAY. HE AND CLERIDES SHOULD JOIN THE TALKS IN GENEVA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, NOT REPRESENTING THE GOVT OF CYPRUS BUT REPRESENTING THE TWO COMMUNITIES. THIS WOULD AVOID QUESTION OF MAKARIOS HOLDING FORTH AS REPRESENTING THE GOVERNMENT. NEITHER TURKEY NOR TURK CYPRIOTS COULD TOLERATE MAKARIOS' PARTICIPATION. MOST OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE ISLAND OVER THE YEARS STEMMED FROM MAKARIOS AMBITION AND ACTIONS. THE TURK LAND-KINGS HE THOUGHT WERE THE ULTIMATE RESULT OF MAKARIOS FAILURE TO MOVE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES.

6. I TOLD CLERIDES THE U.S. WOULD BE MAKING A MODEST CONTRIBUTION TO RELIEF FOR BOTH COMMUNITIES, THAT I HAD DELAYED DETERMINING A DISASTER SITUATION OBTAINED BECAUSE EVIDENCE TO DATE INDICATED THAT WHILE THERE WAS SUFFERING AND PRIVATION, IT WAS WITHIN THE POWER OF AUTHORITIES ON BOTH SIDES TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS REMARKABLY. THERE SEEMED NO PATTERN OF ATROCITIES, INDEED WE HAD REPORTS OF GREEK CYPRIOTS PROTECTING PROPERTY OF TURK CYPRIOTS WHEN NATIONAL GUARD SOUGHT TO SEIZE CROPS AND OTHER POSSESSIONS. (DENKTASH ALSO HAD HEARD THIS.) THERE UNDOUBTEDLY HAD BEEN SPORADIC INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE ON BOTH SIDES BUT SO FAR THE HORRORS OF THE PAST HAD NOT BEEN REPEATED. I NOTED THAT CLERIDES TOLD ME THAT IN FACE OF REPORTS OF ATROCITIES AND MASSACRES HE HAD OFFERED TO GO WITH DENKTASH FOR A PERSONAL SURVEY BUT HAD NOT HAD AN ANSWER. DENKTASH SAID HE HAD BEEN UPSET BY NG ACTS AGAINST CIVILIANS AT ALAMINYU AND GAZIVEREN. AT LATTER, WHEN TURKISH AIRCRAFT ATTACKED ANTI-AIRCRAFT POSITIONS THERE, NATIONAL GUARD HAD GUNNED CIVILIANS GATHERED IN A SCHOOL YARD AND SIX HAD

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BEEN KILLED. HE HAD AGREED TO GO WITH CLERIDES FOR A FIRST HAND INSPECTION, BUT CLERIDES THEN INSISTED THEY ALSO VISIT GREEK CYPRIOTS HELD AT KYRENIA AND BELLAPAIS. THIS HE COULD NOT DELIVER SINCE THIS WAS A ZONE OF MILITARY OCCUPATION AND HIS WRIT AS LEADER OF TURK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY DID NOT RUN THERE, TURK MILITARY WOULD NOT PERMIT CLERIDES TO ENTER.

7. WITH RESPECT TO U.S. CITIZENS AT DOME HOTEL, DENKTASH HAD A LIST OF THOSE HELD AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD IF WE WISHED TO RETRIEVE OUR FOUR CITIZENS, WE COULD. HE SAID ARRANGEMENT MUST BE WORKED OUT THROUGH TURKISH MILITARY AUTHORITY. IN SAME VEIN, HE WOULD CONTINUE TO URGE TURK MILITARY PROTECTION FOR U.S. INSTALLATIONS IN THE OCCUPATION ZONE AND FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY IN KYRBUIA AREA.

8. IN CONCLUSION, DENKTASH SAID WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AND ANTIPATHY BETWEEN GREEKS AND TURKS DID NOT PERMIT THE CONSTITUTION OF A CYPRIOT NATION. THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR WAS TWO COMMUNITIES, SEPARATE BUT EQUAL, AGREEING TO HEAD A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WITH CERTAIN POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. THESE HAD TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES AND CANNOT BE IMPOSED FROM OUTSIDE BY THE GUARANTORS.
DAVIES

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